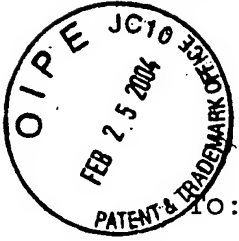


CS-03-026



February 18, 2004

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fr: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572
28 Davis Avenue
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject: | Serial No. 10/734,423 12/12/03 |
Zhang Fan et al.
A NEW DESIGN AND METHOD OF
FABRICATION OF A DIE OXIDE RING
| _____ |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Citation
In An Application.

The following Patents and/or Publications are submitted to
comply with the duty of disclosure under CFR 1.97-1.99 and
37 CFR 1.56.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class
mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 23, 2004.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761

Signature/Date Stephen B. Ackerman 2/23/04

U.S. Patent 5,776,826 to Mitwalsky et al., "Crack Stop Formation for High-Productivity Processes," describes a fuse etch to form a crack stop to prevent cracks from propagating during dicing.

U.S. Patent 6,509,622 to Ma et al., "Integrated Circuit Guard Ring Structures," discloses a plurality of metal guard rings to prevent cracks.

U.S. Patent 6,596,562 to Maiz, "Semiconductor Wafer Singulation Method," teaches using a laser gun to form trenches between guard rings to isolate the saw from the integrated circuits.

U.S. Patent 6,107,161 to Kitaguro et al., "Semiconductor Chip and a Method for Manufacturing Thereof," discloses forming cutting grooves outside of the guard ring to prevent cracking during dicing.

Sincerely,



Stephen B. Ackerman,
Reg. No. 37761

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Caption)

CS-03-026

Application Number

10/734, 423

2021/01/21

Log Likelihood

Zhang Fan, et al.

Filing Date

12/12/03

Group Art Unit

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Portion, Pages, Etc.)

EXHIBIT

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.